

Political activity prohibited.

(5) No officer or employee of the fire and police departments shall take any part in any election or political function other than that of exercising his right to vote, and any officer or employee convicted of violating this provision by the Civil Service Board shall be dismissed from service from said department by this board.

Hearings before Board on complaint for removal of officer or employee.

(6) No officer or employee of the Fire or Police Departments of the City of Charlotte shall be dismissed, removed or discharged except for cause upon written complaint and until after he has been given an opportunity to be heard by the Civil Service Board in his own defense, and in the event such officer or employee is convicted of violating the rules and regulations of the respective department, said board may dismiss or discharge him from service or may fine him or suspend him without pay for a period not to exceed ninety days. Said board may suspend any officer or employee, pending an investigation and hearing, but for a time not to exceed thirty days at any one time. In the conduct of said investigations each member of the said board shall have the power to secure by subpoena both the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books and papers relevant to such investigation; that the chief of either the fire or police department may suspend any officer violating any rules and regulations of said department for a period of time not exceeding thirty days and until said member of fire and police department may have a hearing before the Civil Service Commission as provided in this Act, and such officer or employee shall receive no pay during the period of such suspension if found guilty at the time of the hearing. If said officer or employee shall be found guilty by said board and punished by said board as herein provided, said officer or employee may take an appeal from the order or decree of said board to the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County and the trial upon said appeal shall be de novo, *provided further*, that such person who may wish to appeal shall file with the secretary of the board a bond in the amount of one hundred dollars with sufficient surety, conditioned that he will pay the cost of such appeal in the event said costs shall be taxed against him and pay to the said secretary the necessary fee for entering appeal in Superior Court within ten days after entry of such order or decree appealed from, and upon appeal the secretary of said board shall forthwith transmit to the Superior Court a complete transcript of all papers and proceedings concerning the order or decree appealed from, together with appeal bond and fee.

Penalties authorized upon conviction of violation of rules, etc.

Power of board to issue subpoenas, etc.

Suspension of employee by Chief pending hearing by Board.

Appeals to Superior Court from decree of Board.

Appeal bond.

Transmission of record.

Annual reports by Board.

(7) The board shall make an annual report of its actions for the preceding year and said annual report shall be kept in the files of said board and copy delivered to city council.